

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of configuring a server computer having a connection pool, comprising:

initializing a the connection pool;

generating heuristic override information, wherein the heuristic override information comprises a heuristic override setting and a time period; and

modifying the connection pool using the heuristic override information.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the connection pool is initialized using a plurality of initial settings.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of initial settings comprises a maximum number of connections.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the heuristic override setting comprises a maximum number of connections.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the time period comprises at least one of a time of day, a day of week, and a day of year.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a server, comprising:

initializing a connection pool with an initial maximum number of connections;

applying heuristic information to modify the initial maximum number of connections, wherein the heuristic information comprises a maximum number of connections override and a time period;

in response to receiving a request to connect:

detecting a current number of connections; and

if the current number of connections is less than the modified maximum number of connections, creating a new connection.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

detecting a connection having an unused time greater than a time-out value; and

deleting the connection.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising

in response to receiving a request to connect, resetting an unused time
associated with every available connections.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising if the current number of
connections is greater than or equal to the maximum number of connections, waiting for a
connection to become available.

12. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising in response to receiving a
close connection request for a connection, indicating the connection as available.

13. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the connection pool comprises Java
Database Connectivity connections.

14. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the connection pool comprises Java 2
Connector connections.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, comprising:

(a) a program configured to perform a method of operating a server,
comprising:

initializing a connection pool with an initial maximum number of
connections;

applying heuristic information to modify the initial maximum
number of connections, wherein the heuristic information
comprises a maximum number of connections override and a time
period;

in response to receiving a request to connect:

detecting a current number of connections; and

if the current number of connections is less than the
modified maximum number of connections, creating a new
connection; and

(b) a ~~signal-bearing~~ tangible computer-readable storage media bearing the
program.

16. (Original) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the program
comprises an application server.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the signal bearing tangible computer-readable storage media is chosen from the group consisting of: information permanently stored on non-writable storage media; media and alterable information stored on writable storage media; ~~and information conveyed to a computer by a communications medium.~~

18. (Currently Amended) A method of managing a connection pool, the method comprising:

instructing a computing device to initialize a connection pool; and

instructing the computing device to modify the connection pool using heuristic override information, wherein the heuristic override information comprises a maximum number of connections override and a time period.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising generating the heuristic override information.

20. (Canceled)

Please add the following new claims

21. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the heuristic override information comprises a plurality of rules that specify a time period and a maximum number of connections for that time period; the method further comprising:
- receiving a heuristic timer interrupt event;
 - determining a current time of day; and
 - in response to the heuristic timer interrupt event:
 - determining a connection current pool size; and
 - adding new connections to the connection pool if the current connection pool size is less than the than the specified maximum number of connections associated with the current time of day.
22. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising, in response to the heuristic interrupt event, initializing a timeout value for all available connections in the connection pool
23. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
- receiving a connection timer interrupt event; and
 - in response to the connection timer interrupt event:
 - determining a connection current pool size; and
 - destroying idle connections if the current connection pool size is less than the than the specified maximum number of connections associated with the current time of day.